WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

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- 1. A microporous composite membrane comprising a microporous polyolefin membrane and a porous coating layer of a gelable fluororesin formed on at least one surface of said microporous polyolefin membrane, said coating layer having cylindrical penetrating pores.
- 2. The microporous composite membrane according to claim 1, wherein said penetrating pores have an average diameter of $0.1-50 \mu m$.
- 3. A method for producing the microporous composite membrane recited in claim 1 or 2, comprising the steps of coating at least one surface of a microporous polyolefin membrane with a solution of a gelable fluororesin in a mixed solvent of a good solvent for the fluororesin, and a poor solvent having a dipole moment of 1.8 Debye or less, and drying it to form a porous coating layer of said fluororesin.
- 4. A battery separator constituted by the microporous composite membrane recited in claim 1 or 2.
 - 5. A battery comprising a separator constituted by the microporous composite membrane recited in claim 1 or 2.